

## THE ROANOKE TIMES.

EVERY MORNING, EXCEPT MONDAY.

ROANOKE TIMES PUBLISHING CO.,  
Publishers and Proprietors.

TIMES BUILDING.

Third avenue and First street Southwest

TERMS, BY MAIL, (Postage Prepaid.)

Daily, one month . . . . . \$ 5.00

" three months . . . . . 15.00

" six months . . . . . 30.00

" one year . . . . . 60.00

All papers sent out of the city must be paid for

invariably in advance.

TELEPHONE NUMBER 134.

The Times is delivered in Roanoke, Salem and

Virginia every morning by carriers for 50 cents per

month.

THE WEEKLY TIMES.

THE WEEKLY TIMES, containing the news of

the week in a more condensed form, one year,

\$1.00 in advance.

Advertising rates made known on applica-

tion. Items of news, communications, etc., should

be addressed to the Editor of THE TIMES.

Remittances, by express, money-order, regis-

tered letter, check, or draft, should be addressed

and made payable to

THE ROANOKE TIMES PUBLISHING CO.,

Roanoke, Virginia.

Entered at the Postoffice at Roanoke as second-

class matter.

ROANOKE, VA., OCT. 13, 1891.

THE TIMES can be found regularly on

sale at the following places:

Roanoke—George Gravatt, Jr., M. L.

Smith's, Hotels Roanoke, Ponce de Leon,

Elk's News Stand, 34 Salem Avenue, and

Roanoke News Depot, 105 Henry street.

Bristol, Tenn.—W. A. Ward, Front

Street, Steffner &amp; Mathis.

Bluefield—Bluefield Inn.

Lynchburg—Norvell-Arlington Hotel.

Pocahontas—Pocahontas Inn.

Fulaski—Maple Shade Inn, Brown &amp;

Brown.

Radford—Radford Inn, Jenkin's News

Depot, Norwood Street.

Salem—W. S. Taylor's Book Store.

Washington—Willard's, The Metropoli-

tan.

Norfolk and Western trains.

Rowell's American Newspaper Direc-

tory for 1891 puts the circulation of THE

ROANOKE TIMES above that of any

other paper in Southwest Virginia, and at

more than that of all the other papers of

Roanoke combined.

Food for Reflection.

From THE TIMES Anniversary Edition.

A comparison of newspaper statistics

with our esteemed contemporaries may

be of interest.

THE TIMES—

Sept. 1890. Sept. 1891.

No. advertisements . . . . . 133 275

" columns advertisements . . . . . 28 28

" pages . . . . . 8 8

" columns . . . . . 48 48

THE HERALD—

No. advertisements . . . . . 250 141

" columns advertisements . . . . . 44 20

" pages . . . . . 8 4

" columns . . . . . 64 25

THE WORLD—

No. advertisements . . . . . 106 131

" columns advertisements . . . . . 19 20

" pages . . . . . 4 4

" columns . . . . . 21 32

The above figures are a fair

commentary on the progress of the three

daily papers in Roanoke.

THE TIMES wants a live working agent

and correspondent in every town in South-

west Virginia. Applications should be

sent in at once.

THAT REPORT.

The report of the special investigat-

ing committee has been accepted by the

City Council. THE TIMES is no advo-

cate of a weak-kneed policy of reform;

it believes that half-way measures are

seldom effective.

The report speaks for itself. There

are several passages in which there are

exhibitions of nerve and determination,

but on the whole it is a weak let down.

One is strongly reminded of the small

boys who went out gunning for par-

tridge and encountered a bear.

But the thing is done. The "expert"

may have more courage. No matter

how perfect "system" may be devised

it will be useless unless the system is

administered by officials who will live

up to it. The defalcation of Chief Mor-

ris would have been impossible if the

present system and the ordinances gov-

erning it had been followed out.

MUNICIPAL TAXATION.

The subject for discussion at the Com-

mercial Association rooms to-night is

"Municipal Taxation." The opening

paper will be read by H. J. Browne,

editor of THE TIMES. The topic is one

of great interest, and should draw a

crowded house. The system of taxa-

tion is out of date and extremely op-

pressive to the laboring classes, and

needs reform. It is far from being up

to the needs of a progressive city like

Roanoke.

VERY BAD YOUNG MEN.

Who Make Fun of the Services, Receive

Rev. Mr. Elsom's Attention.

"Pray for these young men who work

at the Roanoke Machine Works. They

attend the meeting every night and the

next day they make fun of the services,"

read Rev. Mr. Elsom from a note last

night before he took his text at the

Calvary Baptist revival. The note was

sent in by a lady.

"Now, my brethren, I feel like pray-

ing for these young men. They ought

to be prayed for, for I tell you any one

who makes fun of religious services is

on his way to hell. They are as near

perdition as they can get.

"Now here is another note asking

that we pray for a little French boy,

who is already much interested. Now,

brethren, pray for him tenderly. He is

interested and wants to be saved, but

these three young men, God save them,

they are on the road to damnation.

Pray for them, brethren."

Mr. Elsom then took his text from

Rev. 6 chapter and 17 verse; "For the

great day of His wrath is come, and who

shall be able to stand?"

Yom Klippur.

The Jewish Day of Atonement was

celebrated yesterday. The day began

at six o'clock Sunday evening and con-

tinued until six o'clock yesterday even-

ing. In this city services were held in

the synagogue and the day was spent in

fasting and prayer.

## A NEW GAME.

Which Is Said to Be Popular Among Rail-

way Travelers in England.

Among the many devices resorted to

for lessening the tediousness of a long

railway journey, not the least ingenious

is the new game described in the fol-

lowing letter addressed to the London

Times by a traveling correspondent:

Will you allow me to describe a new

game for the benefit of those who do

not wish to be unconscious players at

it? It is played in railway trains or

any public place, and I can best explain

it by giving my own experience. I was

alone in a first-class carriage, when two

young gentlemen and their three sis-

ters, as I suppose, entered. I learned

from their conversation that they sup-

posed we should pass a certain station

where they intended on their way to

leave a parcel. I thought it would be civil

to tell them that we had already passed

it. They thanked me most courteously,

and the gentleman who had first men-

tioned the parcel made a pencil mark

on his cuff. Shortly after that one of

the young ladies asked her brother the

time, and as none of the party seemed

to have a watch, and were very much

out in their guesses as to what the hour

was, I again ventured, though a man of

few words, to tell them what I thought

they really wanted to know. Again I

noticed that the young lady who had

first asked the time furtively made a

mark on her cuff. My fellow-travelers

seemed to know so little about the route

we were taking that out of pure kind-

ness I interposed several more times,

and whenever I did so they thanked me

profusely, and I observed that some one

either wrote on his or her cuff, or scored

something down elsewhere. Presently

they divided some money among them-

selves. I have since discovered that I

was the victim of the game of "Lure."

The game is a simple one. The players

take it in turn to start a conversation

strictly among themselves, with a view

of inducing a stranger to break into it.

The points are any sum agreed upon.

If the lure takes effect all the players

pay the starter. If it fails the starter

pays the players. If the lure takes ef-

fect but the person lured answers

wrong, the starter is paid double. All

the players are bound to support the

starter. I learned this afterward.

## GREAT AUTOGRAPH BOOKS.

Signatures of Visitors to Philadelphia

Preserved for Future Ages.

Mr. William Babe, superintendent of

the state house portrait hall, in the

course of an interview with a reporter

the other day, gave some interesting

facts about the visitors' book, of which

he is the custodian. The book lies on

a raised desk at the right of the hall,

and all visitors to the state house are

allowed to inscribe their names in it for

future generations to gaze upon.

"The book," said Superintendent

Babe, "was started in 1870 for the sole

use of visitors to the centennial exhibi-

tion, and it proved vastly popular from

the beginning. It has never been settled

who originated the plan of keeping a

record of Philadelphia's visitors, but it

was the centennial commission, in all

probability.

"Each book contains about 20,400

names, and we use up two a year; so

you see that during the last fifteen

years nearly 315,000 non-residents have

affixed their signatures to the books.

Then, too, like most any other busi-

ness, there are months when we do a

very small business in the chirography

line and others when the trade booms.

March is the lightest month in the year.

We average from seventy-five to eighty-

five names a day during that month.

After March it keeps increasing daily

until August, when the high water

mark is reached. Last August averaged

two hundred and fifty names a day.

From August on it begins to go down

until we come around to March again,

when we touch low water mark.

"Only about half the people who visit

the portrait hall write their names in

the book. Some have a natural aversion

to a 'promiscuous distribution'—as an

elderly gentleman told me the other

day—of their signatures, while others

are not aware of the book's existence.

"There are signers from all over the

world. Every country is represented,

from civilized England and France to

semi-enlightened China and Persia.

"The city intends to keep the books

with the other city records, and in two

or three hundred years from now, I dare

say, the books will be considered very

valuable and interesting relics."—Phil-

adelphia Press.

## A Buried Pond.

A remarkable freak of nature is

found among the hills of Delaware

county, N. Y., in a sunken lake cov-

ering about three acres of surface, which

lies between two parallel ridges not

far from the New York, Ontario &amp;

Western railroad. The whole surface

of the lake is covered with a thick

growth of moss whose stems extend to

an unknown depth, but certainly

further than the arm can reach. Each

tuft of the moss is of a different color

from its neighbor, so that the surface

looks like that of a beautiful colored

carpet. In walking over the velvety

surface the foot sinks down a few

inches without encountering the water,

which is at least two feet below the

surface. Near the shore, in a few

places, the water comes to the top.

The buried pond is a wonderful curiosi-

ty.

## Cause of the Sky's Blueness.

The interesting discovery that oxygen

in its liquid state is blue as been made

by M. Olszewski. To obtain this ap-

pearance it is only necessary to have a

sufficient quantity of the liquid to

form a layer about a twenty-fifth of an

inch in thickness. This blue color is

precisely that of the sky. This is sig-

nificant. The thought will at once oc-

cur that the blueness of the sky is due

to the intrinsic color of the oxygen of

the atmosphere. For it is reasonable

to suppose that though the atmosphere

does only contain oxygen in its gaseous

form, the layer of many miles in thick-

ness through which we gaze may mani-

fest the color which rightly belongs to

oxygen, and is shown in the liquid

state of that gas in a layer of only one

twenty-fifth of an inch in thickness.

## Heironimus &amp; Brugh,

110 Commerce St.,

Are now ready for business

for the

## FALL AND WINTER.

Ladies who did not attend

their opening should avail